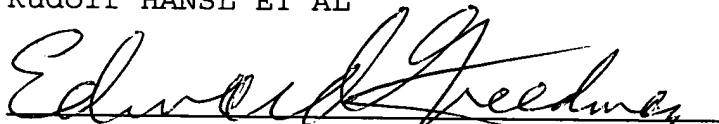


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the claims have been amended in order to remove the multiple dependency. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rudolf HANSL ET AL

By:

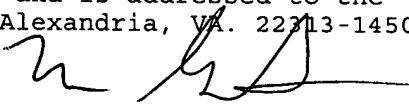
  
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Date of Deposit December 16, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450.

  
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Maria Guastella